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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, MIAMI (105-17958) *FD-217-69 3-4-69 yncg*

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT; CUBAN
EXILE GROUP FORMED BY
JOSE M. MACIAS AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF BRIGADE 2506
IS - CUBA; NM
(OO: Miami)

DATE: JUL 3 1969

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#211,326

Classified by *88 B J/gcl*

Declassify on: OADR *3/26/84*

(5668 SD/GCL 4/5/95 -JFK)

Re Miami letter and LHM dated 4/9/69.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of an LHM setting out additional information concerning the development of the above-mentioned group.

The first confidential source mentioned in the LHM is *MM 1248-S*. The second confidential source is *MM 974-S*.

The Government agency mentioned is U. S. Coast Guard, Miami, which information was furnished to the Miami Office by NED SPROUL.

Copies of this LHM have been disseminated locally to the following:

- 1* copies made INS, Miami
4 LHM 1-3, 3/17/78 56/43 CIA, Miami
for review at FBIHQ by HSCA re Artime (Buca) request 12/23/77 U. S. State Department (Cuban Affairs), Miami
U. S. Coast Guard, Miami
U. S. Customs, Miami and Region II, Miami
U. S. Border Patrol, Miami
NISO, 6th ND, Charleston, S. C.
OSI, Patrick Air Force Base, Florida
U. S. Secret Service, Miami
111th M.I. Group, Orlando, Florida

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10-11-97
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ENCLOSURE

- 2 - Bureau (Enc-9) (RM)
1 - Miami
WMD:sl1
(3) State/CIA/Secret Service/RAO
Army/Navy/Air Force/DIA/Customs/Coast Guard
Coordinator of Cuban Affairs, State

By R/S For Info

Date *8/8/69*

By *VHN/sed*

12 AUG 1 1969

LATIN AMERICAN

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

CONFIDENTIAL



5010-108-01

MM 105-17958

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serial 3
Miami will continue to follow the activities
of this group through MM 1248-S [X] (c)

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CUBAN EXILE GROUP FORMED BY
JOSE M. MACIAS AND OTHER
MEMBERS OF BRIGADE 2506

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The source advised on April 28, 1969, that JOSE MACIAS said that MANUEL ARTIME had secured the release of his boat from United States Customs, but MACIAS made no mention as to whether he had recovered the money paid by the MACIAS group to ARTIME for that boat. MACIAS also mentioned that they had ordered two 350 horsepower engines but that it would be some time before they could expect delivery. (X)(u)

On May 8, 1969, information was furnished by another Government agency to the effect that Cuban boat activity had been observed in the vicinity of Dog Rock in the Bahama Islands. One of the boats involved was identified as the "Coral Reef," which is registered to one MANUEL FRANCO. Two other boats identified as being at Dog Rock were the "Angelita" and the "Skippy." The "Skippy" is a 44-foot Swift boat with a 671 GM diesel engine, registered to NICOLAI and SINEDA VONVERNONNE, 2053 Southwest Second Street. A crew member aboard the "Skippy" was identified as JOSE CHIRINO. It was reported that a 14-foot boat bearing registration FL 0907AE was being towed by the "Angelita" and that this boat was registered to JOSE CHIRINO and that JOSE M. MACIAS was aboard the boat. (u)

It is noted that the confidential source has identified JOSE CHIRINO as a member of the group of JOSE M. MACIAS. (X)(u)

On May 14, 1969, the source advised that he had attended a meeting of another anti-CASTRO group on May 13, 1969. At this meeting one "PAPITO," a member of the MACIAS group, mentioned that JOSE MACIAS was again making plans for some type of activity. (X)(u)

On May 17, 1969, the source advised that a meeting of the MACIAS group had been held on the night of May 16, 1969, at 1100 Southwest 10th Avenue. In addition to JOSE M. MACIAS, those in attendance included JESUS LOPEZ and his son, JESUS LOPEZ, JR., (first name unknown) CHEMIZO, "PACO" (last name unknown) and (first name unknown) MARTIN. The discussion at this meeting (u) Fla.
Cuba

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centered around plans of the group to establish a newspaper. They also considered joining the MACIAS group with another organization known as "La Cruzada Pro Liberacion de los Presos Cubanos" (Crusade for the Liberation of Cuban Prisoners). The source advised that JESUS LOPEZ was connected with this organization. JESUS LOPEZ mentioned to CHEMIZO that they could have machine gun practice at his farm but there was no indication given as to the whereabouts of the farm or whether machine guns were available. (X)

On May 28, 1969, the source advised that JOSE MACIAS was planning to hold a meeting of his group on that date in order to discuss how they would proceed with their plans for an infiltration mission. MACIAS indicated that they were still looking for a suitable boat, so that immediate action was apparently not planned. (X)(u)

On June 3, 1969, the source reported that a meeting of the MACIAS group had been held on May 28, 1969, at 111 Northwest 20th Street, Miami. This is a Pure Oil gasoline station which is owned by a Cuban known only as "EL CHINO." During the meeting, it was learned that the MACIAS group had named a new instructor, who was identified only as (first name unknown) COLLAZO. COLLAZO was with Cuban exile Brigade 2506 in Guatemala in 1961 and prior to leaving Cuba, was in the Army Engineers. In Florida he is employed in construction work and is considered an expert in demolition. During the meeting, COLLAZO was asked by (first name unknown) CASANOVA if he could make a bazooka, to which COLLAZO replied that he could not. At the meeting, "PAPITO" was observed carrying a stick of dynamite estimated to be three feet long and about three inches in diameter. The source did not learn what disposition was made of this dynamite. (X)(u)

On June 16, 1969, a second source, who is acquainted with the activities of the principal anti-CASTRO groups in Miami, furnished information that the anti-CASTRO group known as Alpha 66 reportedly obtained the use of a yacht named "Stefanie III," which they were (X)(u)

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